Maintenance of roads using rubber

1299. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider to use natural rubber with far combination for maintenance of roads in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any State Government has expressed their willingness to co-operate with the Central Government for implementing the Rubberised Road Projects; and

(d) if so, by when Government would consider to take initiative for implementing such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RTED.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) Government has decided to use the rubber/ polymer modified bitumen in the periodical renewal works for maintenance and bituminous wearing course of original works on National Highways for at least 10% lengths. This is being implemented. All State Governments have expressed willingness for implementing such projects.

North-South and East-West corridor in NER

1300. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of the project of the North-South and East-West corridor announced by the Prime Minister in the North-Eastern Region;